

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-referenced application are respectfully requested. The foregoing amendments are responsive to the May 7, 2007 Final Office Action. Applicants respectfully request entry of the requested amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the following comments.

Response to the Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C § 103

Claims 2-8, 11-13, 15, 18-22 and 29-33, 35 and 36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,914,695 issued to Walters, et al in view of Rathbone and further in view of Sony Corporation, PC Connecting Kit. The rejection asserts that Walters allegedly teaches each element of the claims except for disclosing mapping protocol when the peripheral is not successfully identified to the corresponding resident program and mapping the resident program, which is allegedly taught by Rathbone and Sony.

The claims are directed toward mapping a resident program to a peripheral device, either by identifying the peripheral device or if the device cannot be identified, then by the communication protocol specified by the peripheral device. Each of the independent claims require if the peripheral device is identified “*automatically mapping from the identified peripheral device to a corresponding one of said resident programs*” and if the peripheral device is not identified “*examining a communication protocol specified by said peripheral device to automatically map to a corresponding one of said resident programs*.” Thus, the peripheral device is automatically mapped to a resident program by either the identity of the resident device, or lacking a proper identity, examination of the communication protocol of the resident device.

None of the cited art teaches or suggests automatically mapping of a peripheral device to a resident program in that manner. The Office Action admits that Walters does not teach this mapping. The office action relies on Rathbone to teach mapping protocol when the peripheral is not successfully identified to the corresponding resident program. However, the office action states that Rathbone teaches prompting for installation of peripheral device according to a communication protocol. The present claims look to the communication protocol used by the peripheral device, and then automatically maps a corresponding program. Rathbone simply teaches a manual method of installing the appropriate software if the device is not recognized. There is nothing in Rathbone to even suggest that the communication protocol is examined or used at all. In fact, in Rathbone, the program is not selected by a communications protocol, but rather manually by the user by selecting the software that was supplied by the camera. In fact, Rathbone never even suggests that this software will ever be mapped properly.

Further, Sony does not teach examination of the communication protocol and automatic software mapping. Sony simply discloses alternative techniques for connecting the camera to the computer (such as by cable or infrared port) and manually installing the software that comes with the camera (page 23). However, nothing in Sony teaches or even suggests that a communication protocol is ever examined to determine which software program to use. In fact, the concept of examining a communication protocol is never mentioned anywhere in either Rathbone or Sony.

All the cited art discloses is manually installing the supplied software, and the concept of mapping from a communication protocol is never suggested. Thus, none of the cited art can be said to teach this element of the independent claims.

In view of the foregoing distinctions, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 29, 33 and 35-36 are patentably distinguished over the cited art. Applicants respectfully

submit that Claims 29, 33 and 35-36 are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 29, 33 and 35-36.

Claims 2-8, 11-13, 15, 18-22, and 30-32 depend either directly or indirectly from one of the independent claims. Each dependent claim further defines the independent claim from which it depends. In view of the foregoing remarks regarding Claims 29, 33 and 35-36, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2-8, 11-13, 15, 18-22, and 30-32 are likewise in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request allowance of dependent Claims 2-8, 11-13, 15, 18-22, and 30-32.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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